



NORTH CAROLINA

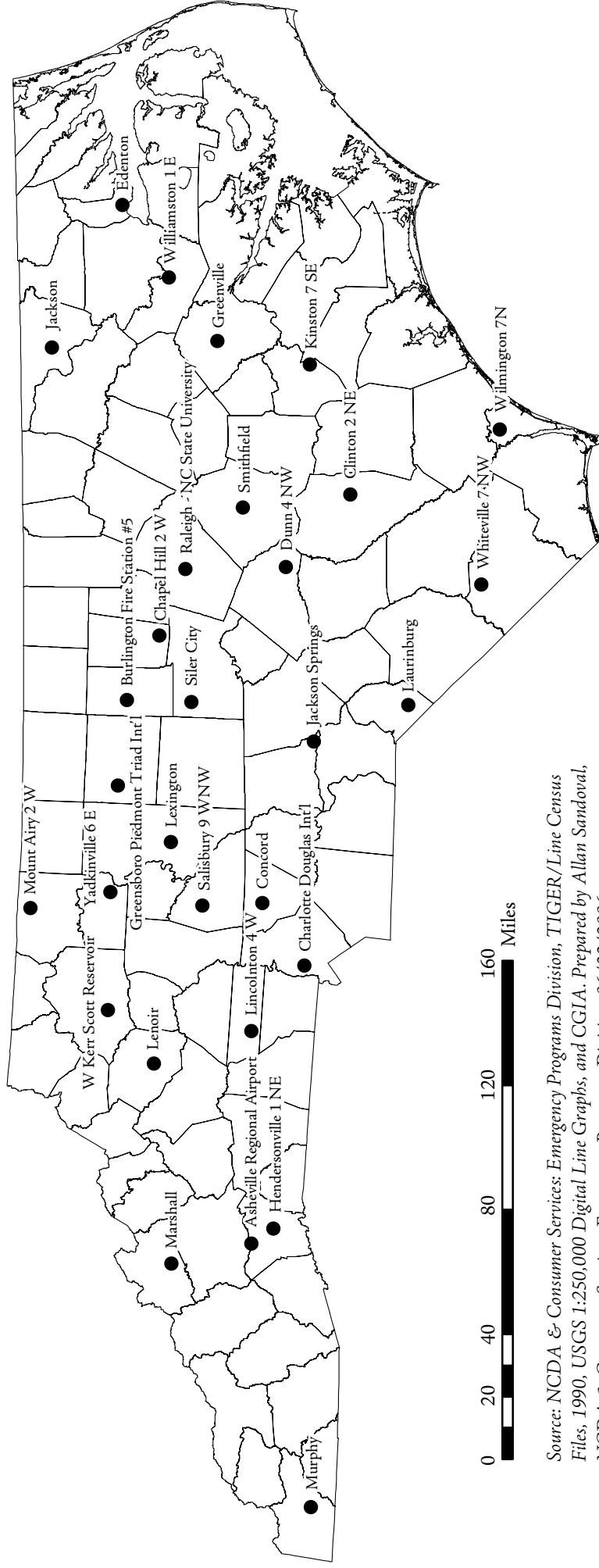
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c r o p s &

WEATHER

1995 to 2004
from planting to harvest

North Carolina Weather Stations



Source: NCDA & Consumer Services: Emergency Programs Division, TIGER/Line Census Files, 1990, USGS 1:250,000 Digital Line Graphs, and CGIA. Prepared by Allan Sandoval, NCDA & Consumer Services: Emergency Programs Division, 06/22/2006.

2005
c r o p s &
W E A T H E R

from planting to harvest
1995 to 2004

Prepared & Published By
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This publication can found online at
www.ncagr.com/weather1995-2004.pdf





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WEATHER

Crops and North Carolina's Climate

North Carolina generally receives sufficient rainfall and warm temperatures which allow a variety of crops to be grown. The warm, humid weather of summer favors flue-cured tobacco production east of the mountains and burley tobacco in the mountain counties. Moderate winter temperatures allow growth of cool season crops like cabbage, broccoli, and collards throughout the winter, especially along the coast. Warm temperatures and a long growing season allow double cropping, such as soybeans following wheat, in areas east of the mountains.

Soil Temperature and Moisture

Temperatures in the upper layers of the soil follow the pattern of air temperatures (colder in winter and warmer in summer). In fact, it is the transfer of heat energy from the soil to the atmosphere which is principally responsible for the air being heated. The deeper into the soil, the less temperatures vary from one day to the next and from one season to another. Below 20 feet or so, soil temperatures change only minimally during the year.

Four and eight inch dept soil temperatures are those most frequently reported, both under native sod and bare ground. In North Carolina, winter soil temperatures at four inches are generally in the 30's and 40's. There is a rapid rise as soils dry and the solar radiation increases during late March through observed east of the mountains, especially in the Sandhills and Coastal Plain. Soil temperature gradually decrease to the 60's by October and then reach their winter minimums in January and early February. The dept of frost is heavily dependent on snow cover and cloud cover at the time of occurrence, but winter extremes are mostly between two and four inches over the Coastal Plan and Sandhills, between three and six inches over the Piedmont and Foothills, and as deep as one foot in the Northern Mountains. These averages are useful in planning how deep to set water lines, for road construction purposes, and for many other decisions.

Soil temperatures can rise and fall more rapidly than many people realize. In the spring, it is fairly common for soil temperatures to rise into the 60's after several warm, sunny days, and then to fall into the 40's after a cold rain or late winter snowstorm. When air temperatures have a diurnal range of over 40°F, four inch soil readings often vary by as much as 25°F. Obviously, the type of soil and the amount of sunshine are two important factors controlling soil temperature changes. A sandy soil will have larger temperature changes than a clay soil, and greater temperature variations will occur on a clear day and night than will be observed in a cloudy period.

The grower is interested in soil temperatures for several reasons. Crop germination is dependent on soil temperature. For example, corn will not germinate nor grow appreciably if soil temperatures are below 50°F for activation. Various minimum and optimum soil temperature thresholds for crop germination and soil fumigation are available from County Extension personnel.

Soil moisture information is somewhat more difficult to obtain than is information about soil temperature. Rough estimates can be made from temperature and evaporation data and soil type, but really accurate measurements require the use of either expensive equipment like a neutron probe or time-consuming weighing and drying procedures.

Soil moisture generally follows a cyclic pattern, which soils near field capacity in the early spring, reaching their driest levels in summer or early fall. There are variations of this pattern each year, and during any particular season there are usually periods of both short and surplus soil moisture. This is especially true during the growing season. During this time there are often three to four weeks of minimal precipitation and high evaporation. For this reason, irrigation is increasingly used by farmers in North Carolina to supplement the "free" water from rain. Even though a summer may have near or above normal rainfall, a four week period of no rain during the critical reproductive stage of crop growth can mean a large reduction in yield. Because much of the summer rainfall in North Carolina is from scattered thunderstorms, such shortages are quite common.

Growing Degree Days

Crop maturity, insect emergence, and disease development are tied to the number of heat units that have been accumulated over a given season. One measure of heat unit accumulation is called the “growing degree day.” The number of growing degree days for a given day is defined to be the difference between the day’s mean temperature and the base temperature for the crop or pest in question. For instance, the base temperature (generally the germination temperature) for garden peas is defined to be 40°F. If the high temperature on a particular day is 65°F and the low is 45°F, the mean (or average) temperature for the day is 55°F. The difference is: 55 minus 40, which equals 15. Thus, 15 growing days, at base 40°F, were accumulated in the example.

By summing the growing degree days for each day over a period of time, a total accumulation can be calculated. Accumulations for maturity or emergence have been established for some crops and insects. For example, if 1400 growing degree days (GDD’s) have accumulated since planting garden peas, for which a total of 1570 is the established total for maturity, a grower knows that only 170 GDD’s are necessary before the peas can be harvested. Knowing the weather forecast for the next week, the grower can estimate exactly when the remaining 170 GDD’s will be accumulated. Growing degree day estimates can also be used to predict exactly when an insect will emerge, which allows the grower time to prepare an appropriate control strategy.

Chilling Hours

Another useful tool to the agricultural meteorologist is the chilling hour. This is essentially the amount of time the temperature remains below a given threshold temperature. For example, if 45°F is the threshold and the temperature at a given hour is 39°F, one chilling hour has been recorded. Many woody plants, including apples and peaches, have a chilling requirement, that is, necessary time of rest or dormancy each year. This is a natural defense mechanism built into most plants so that growth does not occur during a warm period in the late fall only to be followed by severely damaging temperatures during the winter.

Peaches need approximately 1000 chilling hours (hours where the temperature is below 45°F and above 32°F) in order for rest to be satisfied. Seasonal chill hour normals for North Carolina range from around 1100 hours at Wilmington to around 1400 hours over most of the Piedmont and the Mountains. For this reason, peaches grow well in North Carolina, but not in southern Georgia and Florida where the seasonal chill hour normals are less than 500 hours. Some varieties are being bred with a lower chilling requirement so that they can be grown in these sub-tropical areas.

Knowing when rest has been completed for a particular variety, the grower can estimate when bloom will occur. An estimate of whether harvest might be earlier or later than normal can then be made, based on climatology and projected weather conditions.

☞ HOW TO ACCESS WEATHER DATA ☞

Weekly Weather and Crops Release

From March to the middle of December, the North Carolina Agricultural Statistics Division publishes a weekly report that summarizes the crop development and conditions and weather statistics. During January and February, a monthly report is released. A copy of this report can be found on the World Wide Web with the following Internet access: <http://www.ncagr.com/stats/cropweat/index.htm>.

The Southeast Regional Climate Center

A major function of the Southeast Regional Climate Center (SERCC) involves the dissemination of climate information for management and decision making in the Southeast United States. The principal medium through which information will be disseminated is the Climate Information Rapid Retrieval User System, CIRRUS. CIRRUS is a computer-based information system allowing easy access to a variety of climate products. Data and information come from National Weather Service Weather Wire, the Climate Analysis Center, the National Climatic Data Center, and state weather networks. Anyone interested in contacting the Southeast Regional Climate Center may do so by using the following information:

SE Regional Climate Center
2221 Devine Street, Suite 222
Columbia, SC 29205
Phone: 1-866-845-1553
Website: <http://www.sercc.com>
Email: sercc@dnr.state.sc.us

State Climate Office of North Carolina

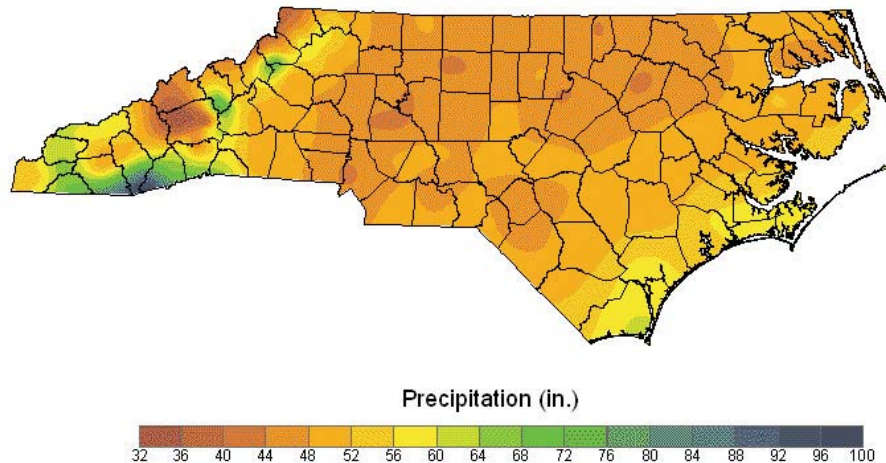
The State Climate Office of North Carolina in cooperation with the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, North Carolina State University) maintains a network of automated weather stations located at the most outlying regions of the state, called the **Agricultural Weather Network (AgNet)**. To obtain additional information, contact:

State Climate Office of North Carolina
Suite 240, Research III Building
1005 Capability Drive
Centennial Campus, Box 7236
NC State University
Raleigh, NC 27695-7236
Phone: 919-515-3056
Website: <http://www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu>
Email: sco@climate.ncsu.edu

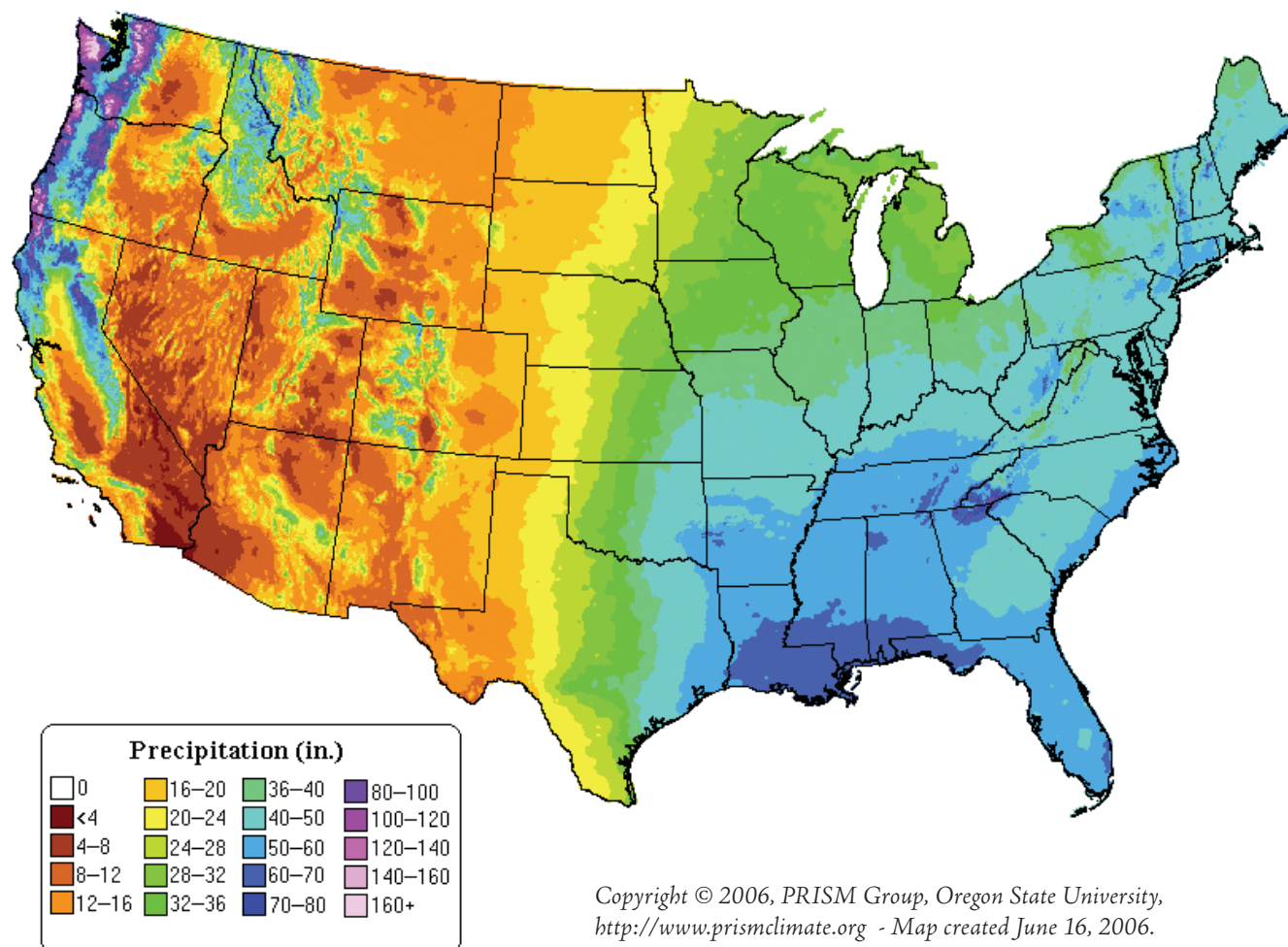
N.C. Annual Average Precipitation 1995-2004 (inches)

Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Asheville Regional Airport	4.64	3.56	3.73	3.57	3.50	5.62	4.31	4.32	4.63	2.41	3.46	3.07	46.56
Burlington Fire Station #5	4.01	2.53	4.28	3.45	3.61	4.39	4.30	4.27	6.18	3.17	2.67	2.80	44.88
Chapel Hill 2 W	4.65	3.41	4.31	3.86	3.20	3.91	4.60	4.95	6.69	3.74	3.03	2.89	50.11
Charlotte Douglas Int'l Airport	3.45	3.14	3.55	3.80	3.12	4.26	4.36	4.12	4.13	2.87	2.73	2.61	42.12
Clinton 2 NE	4.19	3.52	4.11	3.30	4.08	5.48	5.88	5.22	6.44	3.11	3.36	2.75	52.00
Concord	3.82	3.18	3.83	4.19	3.26	4.29	5.40	3.90	5.72	3.34	2.99	2.52	46.43
Dunn 4 NW	4.23	3.58	4.00	3.65	3.93	4.95	5.80	5.56	6.49	3.44	2.84	2.55	51.02
Edenton	3.10	3.22	3.76	2.86	3.42	5.07	5.88	5.50	5.76	3.88	2.66	2.50	48.67
Greensboro Piedmont Triad Int'l	3.69	2.77	3.52	3.69	3.06	4.25	4.22	4.60	6.04	2.38	2.43	2.80	42.26
Greenville	4.03	3.59	3.83	3.33	4.15	4.70	6.21	7.09	7.78	3.25	3.06	3.06	53.77
Hendersonville 1 NE	5.88	4.95	5.01	4.22	3.71	5.46	4.93	4.37	5.77	3.00	4.41	3.86	55.56
Jackson	4.11	2.92	3.96	3.39	3.24	4.42	5.74	4.86	6.25	3.47	2.98	3.03	46.16
Jackson Springs	4.64	3.62	4.17	3.27	3.05	4.21	4.77	5.05	6.53	3.82	2.86	2.62	48.60
Kinston 7 SE	0.66	3.51	4.16	3.31	3.43	6.16	6.95	5.09	6.48	3.10	2.97	2.96	51.07
Laurinburg	3.98	3.76	3.70	2.94	2.60	4.34	4.37	5.39	6.52	3.25	2.43	2.28	44.97
Lenoir	4.37	3.64	4.00	4.44	4.16	4.34	4.51	3.72	5.67	2.95	2.89	3.19	47.87
Lexington	4.16	3.24	3.57	3.78	2.91	3.89	4.44	3.95	5.03	2.78	2.68	2.94	43.36
Lincolnton 4 W	4.32	3.99	4.58	4.25	4.19	4.79	4.72	4.21	4.71	3.01	3.45	3.69	49.92
Marshall	3.97	3.04	3.84	3.28	3.93	4.49	4.02	2.93	3.90	1.83	2.82	2.56	40.60
Mount Airy 2 W	3.94	2.90	3.71	3.43	4.19	5.40	5.05	5.18	4.55	2.54	3.14	3.29	47.31
Murphy	6.49	4.97	5.18	4.68	6.07	5.88	4.73	3.70	5.87	2.70	5.31	4.78	60.36
Raleigh - NC State University	4.31	3.01	4.07	3.28	2.80	4.18	4.96	5.59	6.45	4.21	3.04	2.81	48.74
Salisbury 9 WNW	3.32	3.08	3.75	3.93	3.07	2.82	4.75	3.34	4.79	2.50	2.35	2.71	39.95
Siler City	4.76	3.37	4.20	3.61	3.65	3.41	4.29	4.34	6.56	3.64	2.83	2.79	47.44
Smithfield	3.92	3.50	3.93	3.39	4.12	5.14	6.05	5.61	5.68	3.02	2.66	2.57	49.58
W Kerr Scott Reservoir	4.81	3.18	4.48	4.49	3.65	4.79	4.02	4.84	4.99	3.24	2.88	3.50	48.87
Whiteville 7 NW	4.13	3.69	4.10	3.14	4.45	4.49	5.30	5.84	6.88	2.99	2.89	2.82	50.72
Williamston 1 E	3.92	3.44	3.92	3.50	3.50	5.81	6.19	5.96	7.61	3.65	2.89	3.07	53.46
Wilmington 7N	3.97	3.98	4.41	3.14	5.46	6.52	8.31	8.16	9.77	3.97	2.86	2.95	63.49
Yadkinville 6 E	3.68	3.02	3.94	4.18	3.48	3.98	4.49	3.50	4.89	2.46	2.61	3.54	43.76

Source: NC Climate Center, www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu, 2005



U.S. Annual Average Precipitation 1971-2000



Annual Average Precipitation for Selected U.S. Cities (inches)

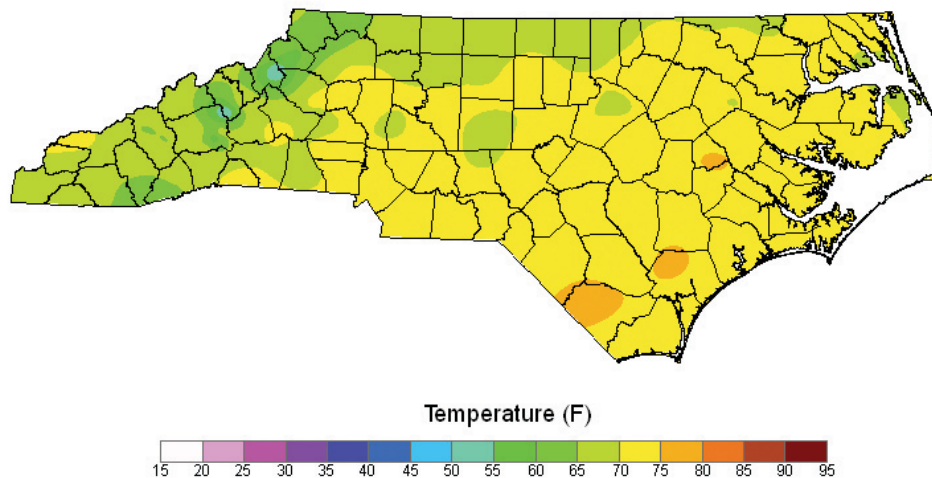
Albuquerque, NM	9.45	Jacksonville, FL	52.34	Phoenix, AZ	8.29
Atlanta, GA	50.20	Kansas City, MO	37.98	Portland, OR	37.07
Boise, ID	12.20	Las Vegas, NV	4.49	Raleigh, NC	43.00
Boston, MA	42.53	Lincoln, NE	28.37	Salt Lake City, UT	16.50
Helena, MT	11.32	Memphis, TN	54.65	San Antonio, TX	32.92
Chicago, IL	36.27	Miami, FL	58.53	San Diego, CA	10.77
Denver, CO	15.81	Minneapolis, MN	29.41	San Francisco, CA	20.11
Des Moines, IA	34.72	New Orleans, LA	64.16	Seattle, WA	38.25
Detroit, MI	32.89	New York City, NY	49.69	Spokane, WA	16.67
Fargo, ND	21.19	Oklahoma City, OK	35.85	Washington, DC	41.80

Source: Averages from 1971-2000, NOAA-National Climatic Data Center, www.ncdc.noaa.gov, 2005

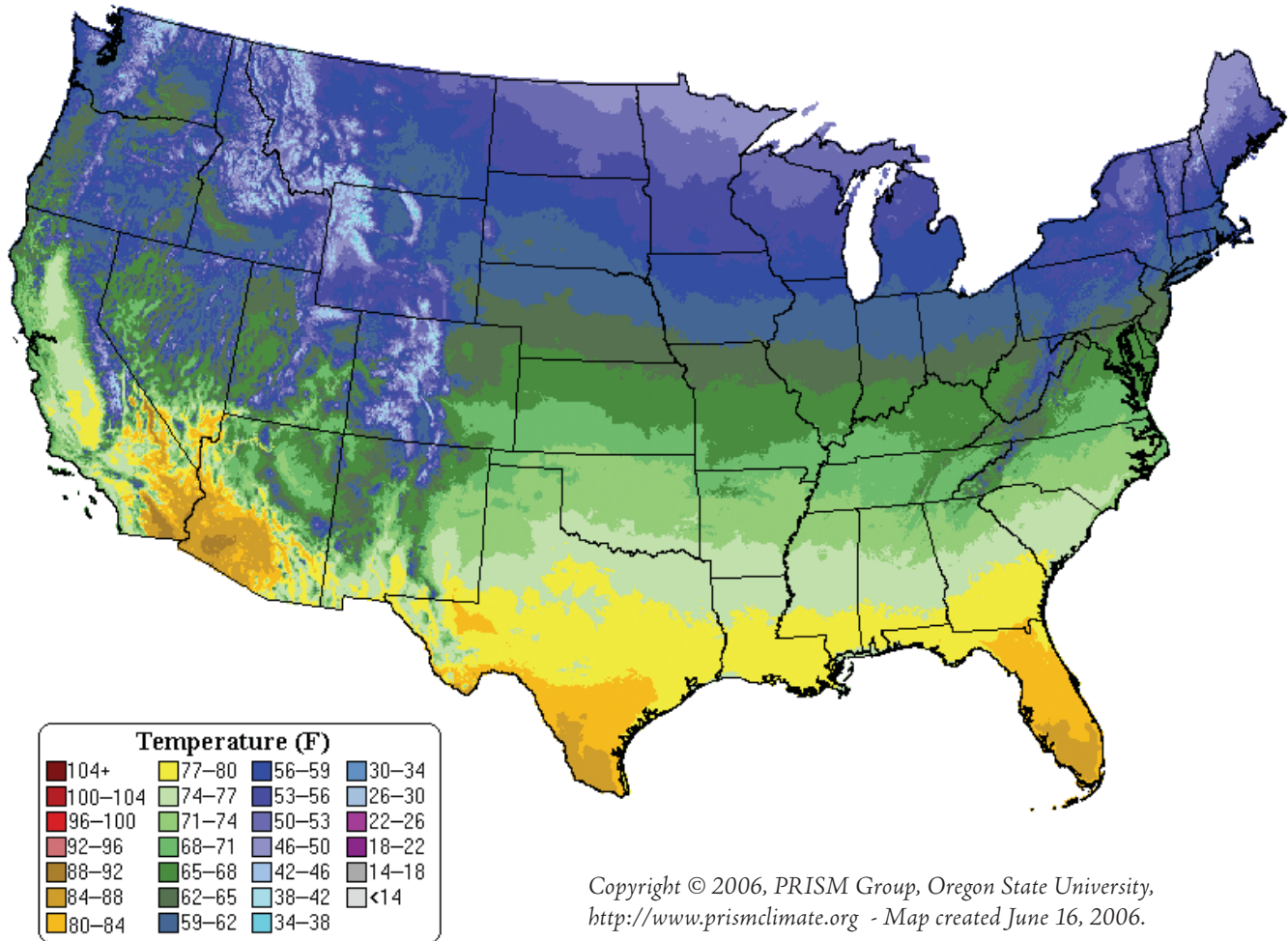
N.C. Annual Average Maximum Temperature 1995-2004 (degrees F)

Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Asheville Regional Airport	47.9	51.5	58.5	67.6	75.6	79.8	83.5	83.0	76.6	68.4	58.3	49.5	66.7
Burlington Fire Station #5	50.3	53.8	61.8	71.4	79.5	85.9	89.2	88.2	81.0	72.0	62.8	52.7	70.9
Chapel Hill 2 W	50.6	54.1	61.9	70.9	78.8	84.9	88.4	87.5	80.6	71.9	62.6	52.9	70.5
Charlotte Douglas Int'l Airport	51.9	55.9	63.7	72.1	79.9	85.2	88.6	87.8	80.8	72.3	62.5	53.1	71.2
Clinton 2 NE	52.6	56.0	63.9	72.6	80.3	86.1	89.1	88.3	82.1	74.0	64.4	54.6	72.1
Concord	51.4	55.3	63.5	72.2	80.3	85.8	89.6	88.6	81.1	72.2	62.5	53.2	71.3
Dunn 4 NW	52.0	55.5	63.5	72.3	79.9	85.7	88.8	87.9	81.3	73.0	63.8	53.9	71.5
Edenton	53.4	56.6	64.3	72.1	79.8	85.7	88.5	86.7	81.3	73.3	63.5	54.9	71.7
Greensboro Piedmont Triad Int'l	48.3	52.3	60.5	69.5	77.3	83.4	86.8	85.7	78.5	69.9	60.1	50.1	68.5
Greenville	52.7	56.7	64.1	73.0	80.4	86.4	89.1	88.2	82.1	73.8	64.1	54.8	72.1
Hendersonville 1 NE	48.1	51.4	59.4	68.0	76.1	80.3	83.9	83.4	76.6	68.5	58.8	49.7	67.0
Jackson	50.0	53.5	61.8	70.6	78.1	84.9	88.0	87.0	80.2	70.7	61.5	52.3	69.8
Jackson Springs	50.8	54.4	62.7	71.5	79.6	85.4	88.6	87.7	80.4	72.0	62.5	52.6	70.7
Kinston 7 SE	52.9	56.5	64.1	72.6	80.2	85.5	88.1	87.0	82.0	73.8	64.5	55.3	71.9
Laurinburg	53.7	57.8	66.2	75.5	83.2	87.9	90.8	89.4	82.6	75.0	65.2	55.1	73.5
Lenoir	50.2	53.4	61.2	70.4	78.5	83.8	87.9	86.9	80.5	71.7	61.6	51.9	69.8
Lexington	50.9	55.5	63.6	72.9	80.1	85.4	88.5	87.9	81.1	72.3	62.2	52.3	71.1
Lincolnton 4 W	51.2	55.6	63.5	72.2	79.5	84.4	87.9	86.5	80.4	71.9	61.6	52.3	70.5
Marshall	46.4	50.5	58.8	67.5	75.9	80.9	84.5	84.7	79.1	69.9	58.5	48.7	67.1
Mount Airy 2 W	47.3	50.7	58.7	68.2	76.4	82.2	85.9	85.5	79.0	69.7	59.6	49.1	67.7
Murphy	49.3	53.2	61.8	70.0	77.1	81.7	86.0	86.0	80.4	71.5	60.8	51.6	69.1
Raleigh - NC State University	49.8	53.9	61.5	70.4	79.0	84.8	87.7	86.7	79.6	70.8	61.0	52.0	69.8
Salisbury 9 WNW	51.8	56.0	64.1	72.9	80.3	85.9	88.8	87.6	80.7	72.4	62.7	52.6	71.3
Siler City	49.7	53.7	61.9	70.7	78.3	84.2	87.7	86.6	79.4	70.8	61.5	51.7	69.7
Smithfield	52.1	55.6	63.4	72.1	80.0	85.8	88.9	87.7	81.1	72.9	63.4	54.1	71.4
W Kerr Scott Reservoir	49.2	52.9	60.8	69.9	78.3	83.6	87.5	86.9	80.4	71.5	61.5	51.3	69.5
Whiteville 7 NW	56.4	59.6	67.8	75.8	83.5	88.1	91.3	90.2	84.3	76.6	67.9	58.0	74.9
Williamston 1 E	51.8	55.2	62.6	71.3	78.9	85.1	87.9	87.2	81.3	73.2	63.5	54.4	71.0
Wilmington 7N	57.7	60.6	67.4	75.1	82.6	87.2	90.4	89.4	83.7	76.6	68.3	59.5	74.9
Yadkinville 6 E	48.2	52.1	60.2	69.7	77.2	83.1	86.7	85.8	78.3	69.5	59.9	49.7	68.4

Source: NC Climate Center, www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu, 2005



U.S. Annual Average Maximum Temperature 1971-2000



Annual Average Maximum Temperature for Selected U.S. Cities (degrees F)

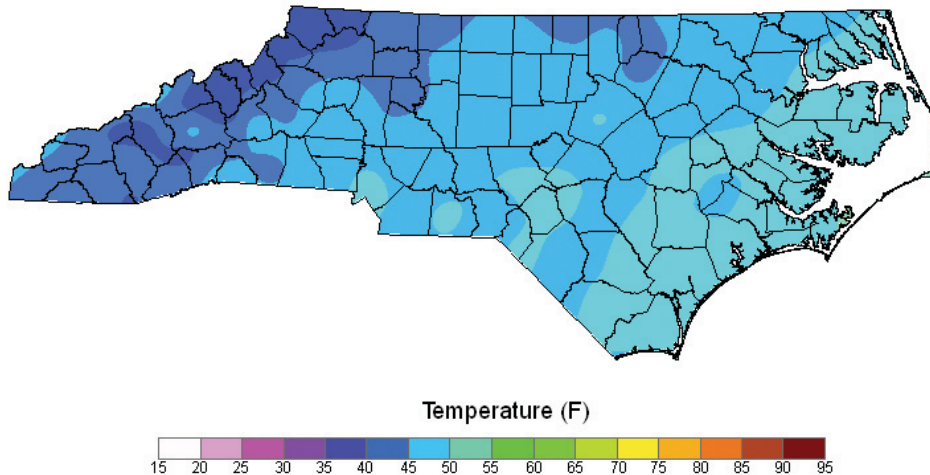
Albuquerque, NM	70.4	Jacksonville, FL	78.4	Phoenix, AZ	84.5
Atlanta, GA	72.0	Kansas City, MO	64.3	Portland, OR	62.1
Boise, ID	62.6	Las Vegas, NV	79.9	Raleigh, NC	70.6
Boston, MA	59.3	Lincoln, NE	62.8	Salt Lake City, UT	62.9
Helena, MT	56.7	Memphis, TN	72.1	San Antonio, TX	77.2
Chicago, IL	58.3	Miami, FL	84.2	San Diego, CA	70.8
Denver, CO	64.2	Minneapolis, MN	54.7	San Francisco, CA	65.1
Des Moines, IA	59.8	New Orleans, LA	78.0	Seattle, WA	60.3
Detroit, MI	58.4	New York City, NY	61.7	Spokane, WA	57.4
Fargo, ND	51.7	Oklahoma City, OK	71.1	Washington, DC	66.4

Source: Averages from 1971-2000, NOAA-National Climatic Data Center, www.ncdc.noaa.gov, 2005

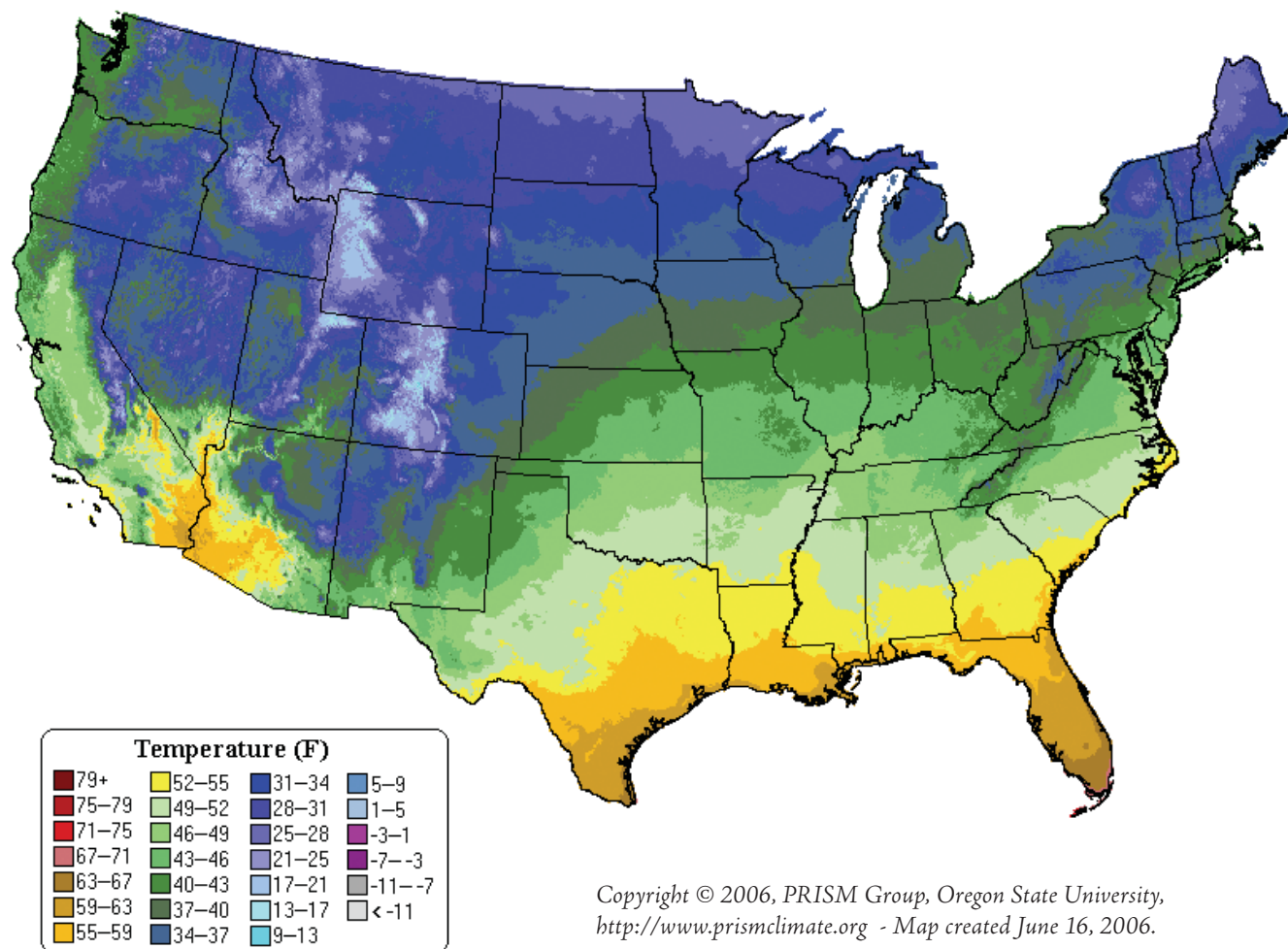
N.C. Annual Average Minimum Temperature 1995-2004 (degrees F)

Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Asheville Regional Airport	27.5	30.8	35.6	43.3	52.1	59.4	63.4	62.6	55.8	45.3	36.0	28.6	45.0
Burlington Fire Station #5	28.7	31.5	38.2	46.2	55.8	63.9	68.4	67.1	59.9	47.9	37.9	30.3	48.0
Chapel Hill 2 W	28.8	31.4	37.9	46.7	55.9	64.4	68.7	67.1	60.6	48.0	38.0	30.6	48.2
Charlotte Douglas Int'l Airport	31.6	34.5	40.9	48.7	57.7	65.5	68.8	67.9	61.1	50.0	40.1	32.5	50.0
Clinton 2 NE	31.8	34.4	41.4	49.4	57.9	66.5	70.1	68.2	62.8	50.5	41.1	33.5	50.7
Concord	29.0	31.7	38.5	47.0	56.4	64.8	68.9	67.4	60.4	48.5	38.2	30.0	48.4
Dunn 4 NW	30.5	32.9	39.2	47.8	56.8	65.4	69.6	67.9	62.2	49.8	39.1	32.2	49.4
Edenton	33.4	35.7	41.3	49.5	58.3	66.6	70.0	68.8	63.3	52.1	42.6	35.7	51.5
Greensboro Piedmont Triad Int'l	29.4	32.1	38.7	46.9	56.0	64.3	68.1	67.1	60.0	48.5	38.7	30.9	48.4
Greenville	32.7	35.0	41.0	49.6	58.4	66.8	70.6	68.8	63.5	50.7	40.9	33.6	51.0
Hendersonville 1 NE	27.7	30.6	36.0	43.9	53.0	60.4	64.7	63.7	56.3	46.0	36.6	28.8	45.7
Jackson	28.6	31.3	37.5	46.2	55.6	64.2	68.2	66.6	60.5	47.6	38.3	30.7	47.9
Jackson Springs	31.1	33.7	40.3	48.4	57.2	65.2	68.5	67.3	61.4	50.6	41.3	32.9	49.8
Kinston 7 SE	31.6	33.9	40.2	48.5	57.4	66.2	69.5	67.3	62.5	49.7	40.1	33.1	50.0
Laurinburg	32.1	34.6	41.9	49.6	59.0	67.1	70.6	69.2	63.2	51.3	41.6	33.1	51.1
Lenoir	26.4	29.9	36.0	44.6	53.5	62.0	66.1	65.3	57.7	46.1	36.0	27.3	45.9
Lexington	28.6	31.6	37.7	45.9	55.4	63.4	67.2	65.7	59.2	47.6	37.8	29.8	47.5
Lincolnton 4 W	29.4	32.3	38.4	46.2	54.8	62.6	66.4	65.5	58.7	47.5	38.2	30.2	47.5
Marshall	23.0	26.3	31.1	38.3	47.5	56.6	60.9	59.5	52.4	41.2	31.4	24.6	41.1
Mount Airy 2 W	24.7	27.1	31.8	40.4	49.7	58.6	62.8	61.5	54.5	42.7	32.8	25.6	42.7
Murphy	25.6	29.1	34.4	41.7	51.4	59.0	63.3	62.3	55.4	44.3	34.4	27.4	44.0
Raleigh - NC State University	31.3	34.0	39.9	48.9	57.7	65.7	69.3	68.3	62.3	50.3	41.0	33.2	50.2
Salisbury 9 WNW	26.5	29.7	36.7	45.4	54.9	63.1	67.0	65.7	58.1	45.7	36.0	27.5	46.3
Siler City	29.5	32.1	38.7	46.9	55.8	64.1	68.0	66.4	59.8	48.1	38.9	31.6	48.3
Smithfield	29.8	32.3	38.2	45.9	53.6	63.5	67.6	65.7	61.2	48.4	38.3	31.5	48.2
W Kerr Scott Reservoir	25.4	27.7	33.8	42.4	51.7	60.5	64.3	63.1	56.2	44.5	34.8	26.8	44.3
Whiteville 7 NW	32.4	34.9	41.2	48.7	57.7	66.2	69.5	67.6	62.1	50.1	40.6	33.1	50.3
Williamston 1 E	31.8	34.8	41.1	49.0	57.6	66.1	69.7	68.3	62.9	50.3	41.3	33.5	50.5
Wilmington 7N	32.0	34.9	41.2	48.8	57.6	66.1	69.8	67.9	62.3	50.5	40.6	33.1	50.4
Yadkinville 6 E	24.7	27.2	32.7	41.6	50.7	59.7	64.1	62.5	55.8	42.9	32.8	25.3	43.3

Source: NC Climate Center, www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu, 2005



U.S. Annual Average Minimum Temperature 1971-2000



Annual Average Minimum Temperature for Selected U.S. Cities (degrees F)

Albuquerque, NM	43.2	Jacksonville, FL	57.6	Phoenix, AZ	61.1
Atlanta, GA	52.3	Kansas City, MO	44.0	Portland, OR	44.8
Boise, ID	41.3	Las Vegas, NV	56.3	Raleigh, NC	48.6
Boston, MA	43.9	Lincoln, NE	39.3	Salt Lake City, UT	41.2
Helena, MT	31.2	Memphis, TN	52.5	San Antonio, TX	57.5
Chicago, IL	39.8	Miami, FL	69.1	San Diego, CA	58.1
Denver, CO	35.8	Minneapolis, MN	35.9	San Francisco, CA	49.6
Des Moines, IA	40.2	New Orleans, LA	59.6	Seattle, WA	45.4
Detroit, MI	41.0	New York City, NY	47.5	Spokane, WA	37.2
Fargo, ND	31.1	Oklahoma City, OK	49.2	Washington, DC	42.6

Source: Averages from 1971-2000, NOAA-National Climatic Data Center, www.ncdc.noaa.gov, 2005

North Carolina Growing Season Data

Station	Last Spring Frost (1971-2004)	First Fall Frost (1971-2004)	Median Growing Season (# days)
Asheville Regional Airport	23-Apr	14-Oct	174
Burlington Fire Station #5	2-Apr	31-Oct	212
Chapel Hill 2 W	7-Apr	30-Oct	205
Charlotte Douglas Int'l Airport	1-Apr	6-Nov	218
Clinton 2 NE	2-Apr	1-Nov	212
Concord	3-Apr	1-Nov	211
Dunn 4 NW	2-Apr	30-Oct	211
Edenton	28-Mar	11-Nov	226
Greensboro Piedmont Triad Int'l	9-Apr	29-Oct	203
Greenville	31-Mar	3-Nov	216
Hendersonville 1 NE	22-Apr	17-Oct	177
Jackson	9-Apr	29-Oct	203
Jackson Springs	31-Mar	7-Nov	220
Kinston 7 SE	1-Apr	1-Nov	213
Laurinburg	30-Mar	4-Nov	218
Lenoir	17-Apr	20-Oct	186
Lexington	7-Apr	28-Oct	203
Lincolnton 4 W	10-Apr	28-Oct	199
Marshall	26-Apr	15-Oct	171
Mount Airy 2 W	24-Apr	15-Oct	173
Murphy	27-Apr	15-Oct	169
Raleigh - NC State University	30-Mar	8-Nov	223
Salisbury 9 WNW	15-Apr	22-Oct	189
Siler City	16-Apr	22-Oct	188
Smithfield	6-Apr	27-Oct	202
W Kerr Scott Reservoir	23-Apr	20-Oct	180
Whiteville 7 NW	31-Mar	1-Nov	214
Williamston 1 E	26-Mar	5-Nov	222
Wilmington 7N	4-Apr	4-Nov	213
Yadkinville 6 E	19-Apr	20-Oct	183

Source: NC Climate Center, www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu, 2005

✿ CROPS ✿

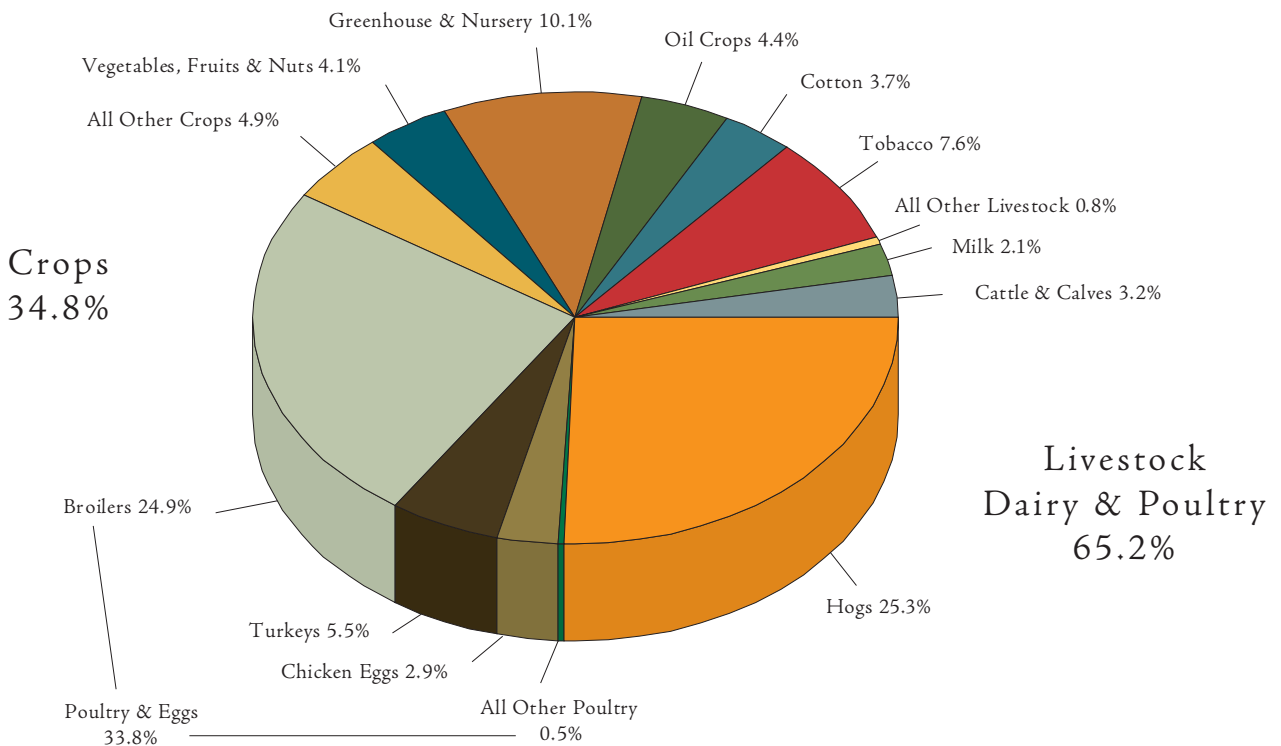
Crops grown in North Carolina are as varied as the climate and terrain. North Carolina's Mountain Region is known for apples and burley tobacco. The Piedmont Region of the state grows tobacco, hay, small grains, corn, soybeans, and peaches. The Coastal Plain Region is the main crop producing area of the state. The Coastal Plain Region leads the state in the production of tobacco, sweetpotatoes, corn, cotton, winter wheat, soybeans and peanuts.

Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates: Field Crops

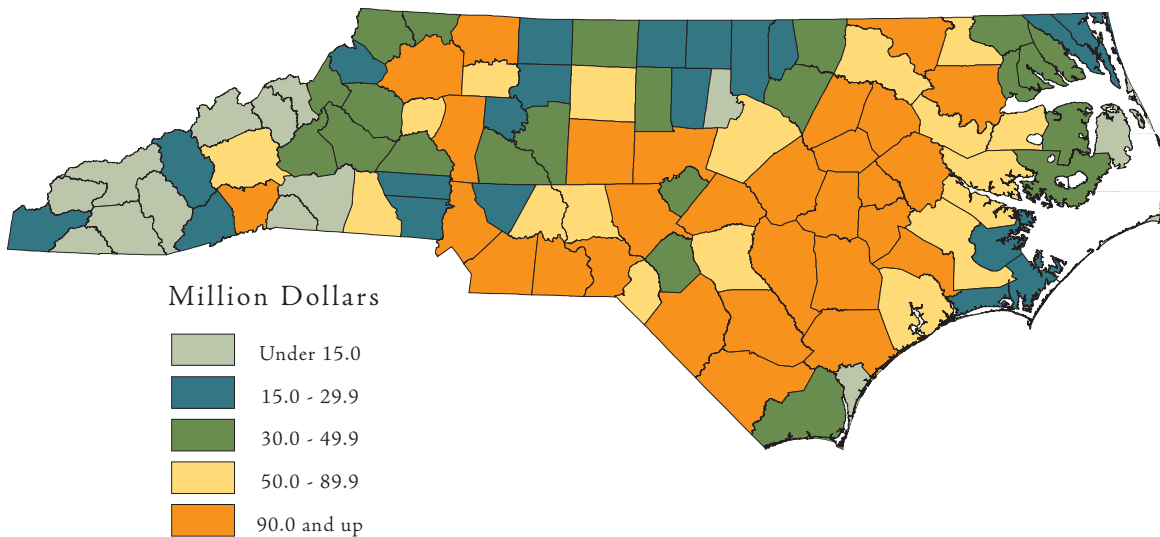
Crops	2004 Harvested Acres	Usual Planting Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
		Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
	<i>Thousands</i>						
Barley: Grain	15	Sept. 25	Oct. 15 - Nov. 10	Dec. 1	May 25	Jun. 9 - Jun. 30	Jul. 25
Oats: Grain	25	Sept. 15	Oct. 15 - Nov. 24	Dec. 10	May 28	Jun. 9 - Jun. 30	Jul. 25
Wheat: Grain	460	Sept. 20	Oct. 15 - Nov. 20	Dec. 20	May 29	Jun. 9 - Jun. 30	Jul. 25
Corn: Grain	740	Apr. 1	Apr. 10 - Apr. 25	May 20	Aug. 20	Sept. 10 - Oct. 7	Nov. 7
Silage	75	Apr. 1	Apr. 10 - Apr. 25	May 20	Aug. 1	Aug. 18 - Sept. 20	Oct. 20
Cotton	725	Apr. 21	May 1 - May 20	Jun. 8	Sept. 27	Oct. 7 - Nov. 15	Dec. 15
Peanuts	105	Apr. 28	May 8 - May 28	Jun. 2	Sept. 24	Oct. 8 - Oct. 29	Nov. 14
Sorghum: Grain	14	May 5	May 25 - Jun. 16	Jul. 14	Aug. 14	Oct. 1 - Oct. 22	Nov. 26
Silage	2	May 1	May 10 - Jun. 10	Jul. 5	Jul. 25	Aug. 10 - Sept. 15	Oct. 1
Soybeans	1,500	May 1	May 20 - Jun. 30	Jul. 18	Oct. 10	Nov. 12 - Dec. 3	Dec. 20
Tobacco:							
Type 11	43	Apr. 30	May 7 - May 25	Jun. 5	Jul. 15	Aug. 1 - Sept. 5	Oct. 10
Type 12	89	Apr. 18	Apr. 30 - May 12	Jun. 2	Jul. 5	Jul. 30 - Aug. 30	Sept. 25
Type 13	19.4	Apr. 15	Apr. 20 - May 10	May 31	Jul. 1	Jul. 21 - Aug. 21	Sept. 15
Type 31	4.7	May 13	May 20 - Jun. 7	Jun. 30	Aug. 18	Sept. 1 - Sept. 22	Oct. 13
Hay: Alfalfa	12				Apr. 30		Nov. 17
Other	700				Apr. 30		Nov. 17
Irish Potatoes	13.5	Mar. 4	Mar. 10 - Apr. 7	Apr. 28	Jun. 9	Jun. 23 - Jul. 14	Aug. 7
Sweetpotatoes	43	May 5	May 19 - Jun. 16	Jul. 14	Sept. 1	Sept. 24 - Nov. 4	Nov. 20

CASH RECEIPTS

Source of Farm Cash Receipts, North Carolina, 2004 \$8,210,497,000



Distribution of Total Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, 2004



Detailed statistics for county cash receipts are available at <http://www.ncagr.com/stats/cashrcpt/cashrcpt.htm>

🍴 TOBACCO 🍴

Crop production in North Carolina has long centered on tobacco. Cash receipts peaked in 1997 for tobacco at \$1.25 billion, the largest value since 1981. As of 2004, tobacco cash receipts of \$620 million represented 7.6% of total farm income. North Carolina has traditionally been ranked the nation's top producer in all tobacco production and in flue-cured production.

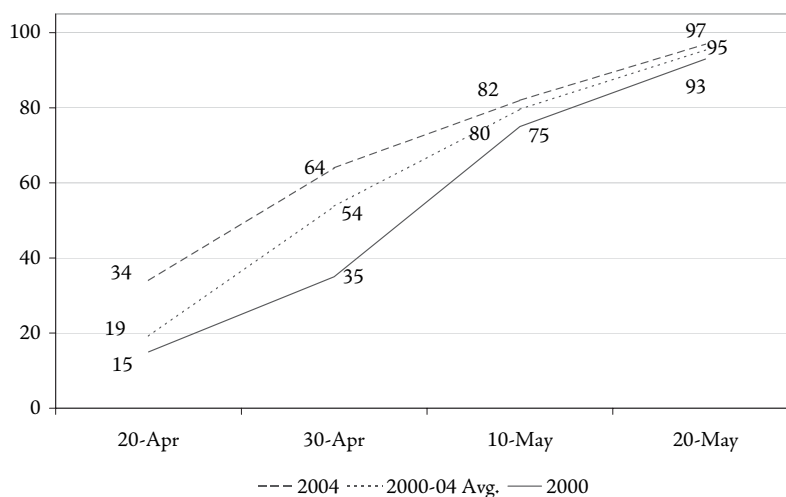
Tobacco production has declined in recent years due to the decline in tobacco quota. Congress initiated legislation to end the tobacco quota program starting with the 2005 crop. In 2003, the value of all tobacco production dipped to its lowest point since 1969 to \$598 million, less than half of 1997's value.

Tobacco is found throughout the state and in 83% of all counties of North Carolina. The Central Coastal counties are the leaders in tobacco acres harvested, production and total value. Pitt County ranks first in the production of tobacco with nearly 19 million pounds on 8,810 acres in 2004.

Flue-Cured Tobacco: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	April		May	
	20	30	10	20
1995	14	63	81	96
1996	13	58	78	95
1997	32	53	72	93
1998	25	46	61	88
1999	26	48	83	93
2000	15	35	75	93
2001	9	61	86	97
2002	20	65	85	99
2003	18	44	70	91
2004	34	64	82	97
2000-04 Avg.	19.2	53.8	79.6	95.4

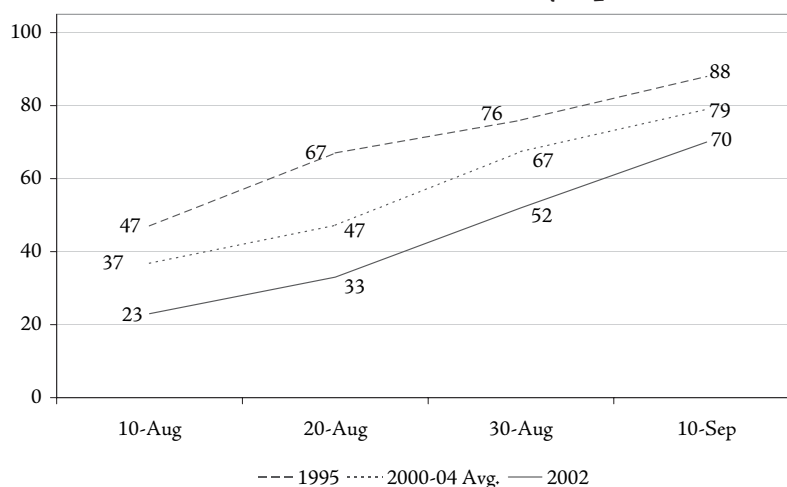
Flue-Cured Tobacco: % Planted By Specified Dates



Flue-Cured Tobacco: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	August			September
	10	20	30	10
1995	47	67	76	88
1996	40	59	68	89
1997	21	43	49	54
1998	35	41	55	62
1999	27	37	59	70
2000	32	40	65	74
2001	39	49	64	81
2002	23	33	52	70
2003	43	54	77	85
2004	47	60	79	85
2000-04 Avg.	36.8	47.2	67.4	79

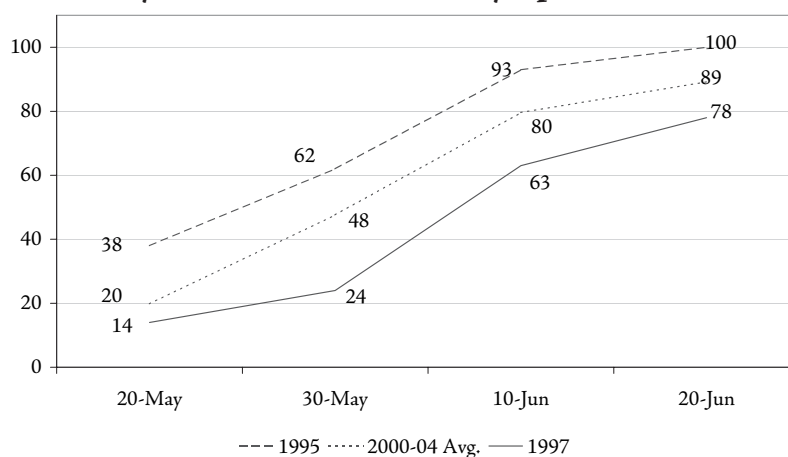
Flue-Cured Tobacco: % Harvested By Specified Dates



Burley Tobacco: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	May		June	
	20	30	10	20
1995	38	62	93	100
1996	51	54	91	100
1997	14	24	63	78
1998	12	35	65	80
1999	20	64	74	92
2000	10	60	75	86
2001	32	56	79	90
2002	26	45	85	96
2003	7	22	70	79
2004	24	55	89	95
2000-04 Avg.	19.8	47.6	79.6	89.2

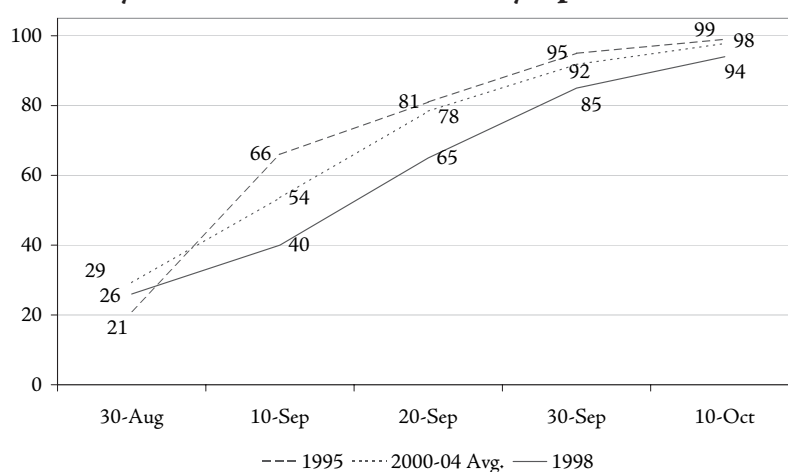
Burley Tobacco: % Planted By Specified Dates



Burley Tobacco: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	August	September				October
	30	10	20	30		10
1995	21	66	81	95		99
1996	22	58	70	91		97
1997	37	52	63	85		93
1998	26	40	65	85		94
1999	29	47	76	87		100
2000	30	50	82	90		100
2001	40	61	74	95		99
2002	30	65	80	90		97
2003	14	32	79	94		99
2004	33	60	77	90		94
2000-04 Avg.	29.25	53.6	78.4	91.8		97.8

Burley Tobacco: % Harvested By Specified Dates



✿ CORN ✿

Corn has traditionally been the main feed grain grown in North Carolina. Corn acreage has gradually declined since 1939 when 2.4 million acres of corn for grain were harvested statewide. In 2004, 740,000 acres of corn were harvested.

Despite the decline in corn acreage, yields have continued to increase. This is attributed to better farming techniques, improved fertilizers and pesticides, expanded use of irrigation and progressive varieties.

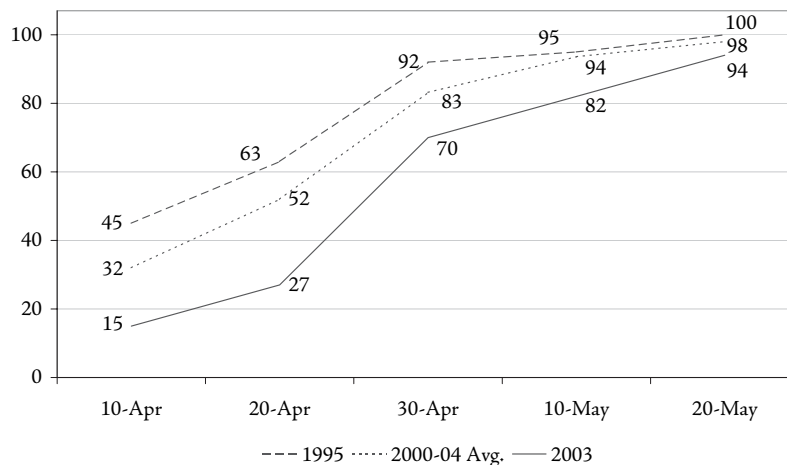
It was not until 1941 that corn yield remained above 20 bushels per acre. Since 1967, the yield has not been below 50 bushels per acre. Record corn yields were seen in 2001 at 125 bushels per acre. Most corn for grain is grown in the Coastal Plain, with a few western Piedmont counties also showing significant production.

Planting of corn in North Carolina begins around April 1 and usually extends into early June. As the growing season progresses, silking occurs from early June to late July. The maturation process continues throughout July, August, and September through the dough, dent and mature stages of development. Harvesting generally begins in late August and is in full swing by mid-September.

Corn: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	April			May	
	10	20	30	10	20
1995	45	63	92	95	100
1996	29	30	90	95	100
1997	29	77	89	94	98
1998	25	51	67	75	86
1999	43	64	74	89	92
2000	40	65	72	93	96
2001	36	57	92	97	100
2002	33	60	92	98	100
2003	15	27	70	82	94
2004	36	51	90	98	100
2000-04 Avg.	32	52	83.2	93.6	98

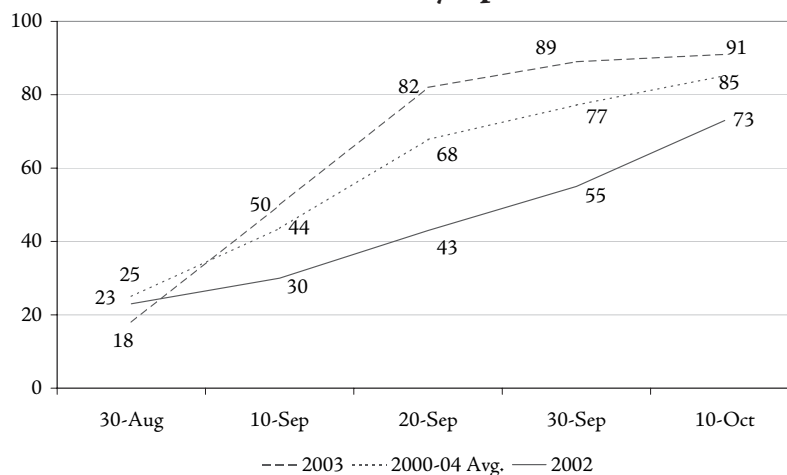
Corn: % Planted By Specified Dates



Corn: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	August	September			October
	30	10	20	30	10
1995	21	59	68	84	89
1996	23	47	50	71	77
1997	13	34	52	70	80
1998	15	50	60	90	95
1999	25	41	54	63	79
2000	9	35	55	70	85
2001	30	47	81	89	92
2002	23	30	43	55	73
2003	18	50	82	89	91
2004	45	56	78	83	85
2000-04 Avg.	25	43.6	67.8	77.2	85.2

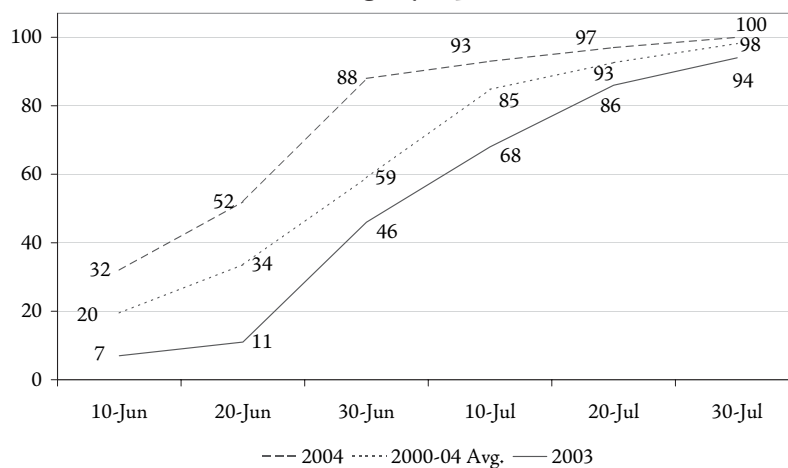
Corn: % Harvested By Specified Dates



Corn: % Silking By Specified Dates

Year	June		July		
	20	30	10	20	30
1995	39	56	89	93	96
1996	17	45	86	94	98
1997	9	53	59	90	94
1998	23	65	70	85	87
1999	34	44	74	86	91
2000	35	55	89	95	98
2001	30	51	85	93	100
2002	40	55	89	92	99
2003	11	46	68	86	94
2004	52	88	93	97	100
2000-04 Avg.	33.6	59	84.8	92.6	98.2

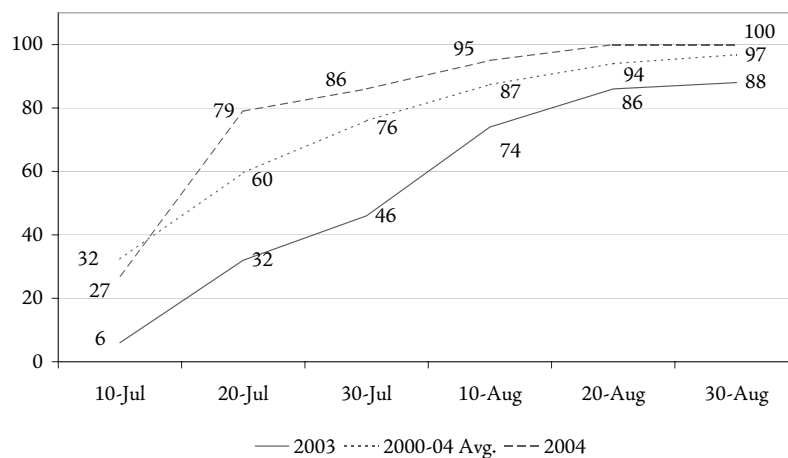
Corn: % Silking By Specified Dates



Corn: % Soft Dough By Specified Dates

Year	July			August		
	10	20	30	10	20	30
1995	52	65	86	92	96	100
1996	48	73	83	91	97	100
1997	33	61	69	89	94	99
1998	50	61	66	84	90	95
1999	46	54	59	71	86	94
2000	51	70	79	85	92	96
2001	37	55	82	91	96	100
2002	41	62	87	92	96	100
2003	6	32	46	74	86	88
2004	27	79	86	95	100	100
2000-04 Avg.	32.4	59.6	76	87.4	94	96.8

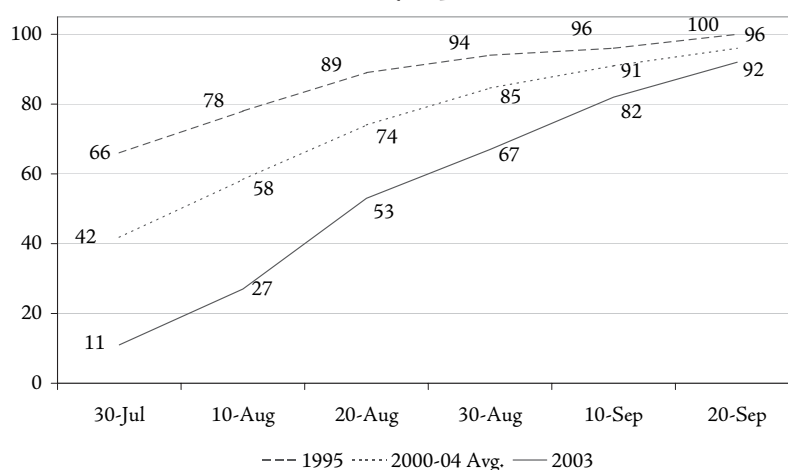
Corn: % Soft Dough By Specified Dates



Corn: % Dent By Specified Dates

Year	July	August			September	
	30	10	20	30	10	20
1995	66	78	89	94	96	100
1996	48	77	92	95	100	100
1997	31	61	76	85	87	96
1998	45	66	70	85	90	95
1999	55	65	70	84	95	98
2000	47	64	70	82	90	95
2001	50	65	80	90	95	97
2002	50	68	80	91	93	97
2003	11	27	53	67	82	92
2004	51	68	87	93	95	99
2000-04 Avg.	41.8	58.4	74	84.6	91	96

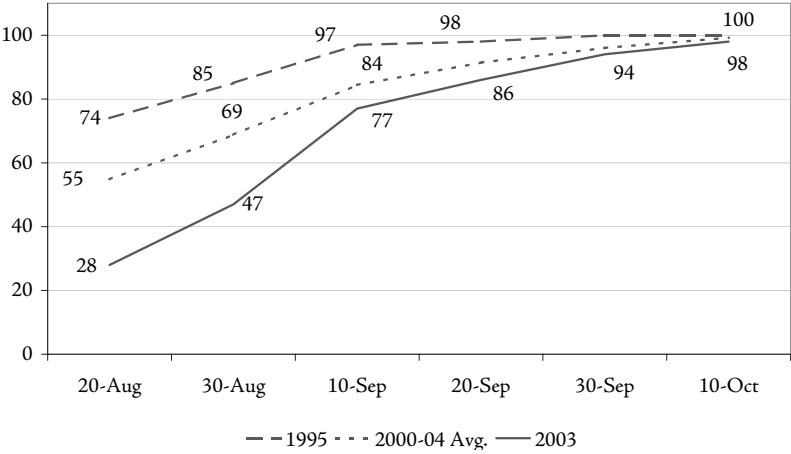
Corn: % Dent By Specified Dates



Corn: % Mature By Specified Dates

Year	August		September			October
	20	30	10	20	30	10
1995	74	85	97	98	100	100
1996	73	84	95	98	100	100
1997	47	66	87	92	96	100
1998	46	60	85	90	95	100
1999	58	78	87	90	96	100
2000	60	70	85	90	95	100
2001	55	75	85	95	97	99
2002	60	74	84	92	97	99
2003	28	47	77	86	94	98
2004	71	78	91	94	97	100
2000-04 Avg.	54.8	68.8	84.4	91.4	96	99.2

Corn: % Mature By Specified Dates



🌱 SOYBEANS 🌱

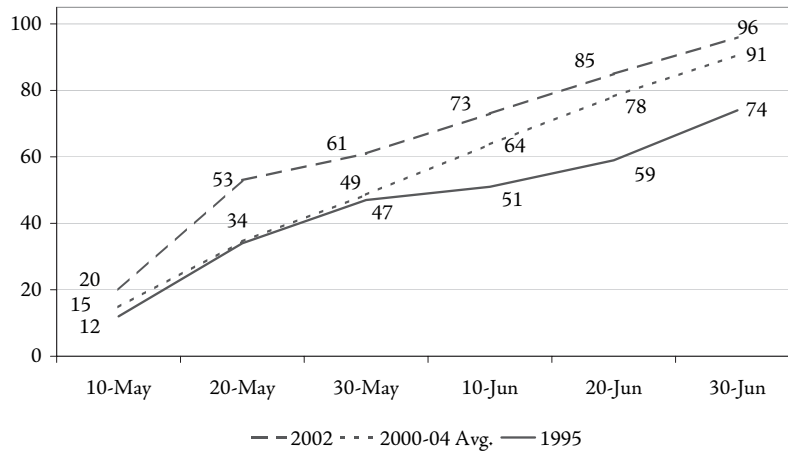
In 2004, the soybean planted area in North Carolina was 1.5 million acres. Price changes and environmental factors have caused the soybean acreage to fluctuate over the last few years. Soybeans are found across North Carolina, with the Coastal Plain region producing 80% of all soybeans in the state.

Planting of soybeans generally begins in early May and normally continues into early July, with much of the later planted beans being planted after the winter wheat is harvested. Double cropping with wheat has increased rapidly since 1980. Blooming takes place during mid-July through late August, with pods set during early August to late September. Harvest begins in mid-October and usually continues well into December.

Soybeans: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	May			June		
	10	20	30	10	20	30
1995	12	34	47	51	59	74
1996	11	37	40	73	90	93
1997	13	27	42	55	77	90
1998	12	28	43	65	70	85
1999	15	23	38	60	75	84
2000	14	27	50	62	83	89
2001	12	25	52	65	81	91
2002	20	53	61	73	85	96
2003	7	28	32	54	67	86
2004	21	40	48	65	75	91
2000-04 Avg.	14.8	34.6	48.6	63.8	78.2	90.6

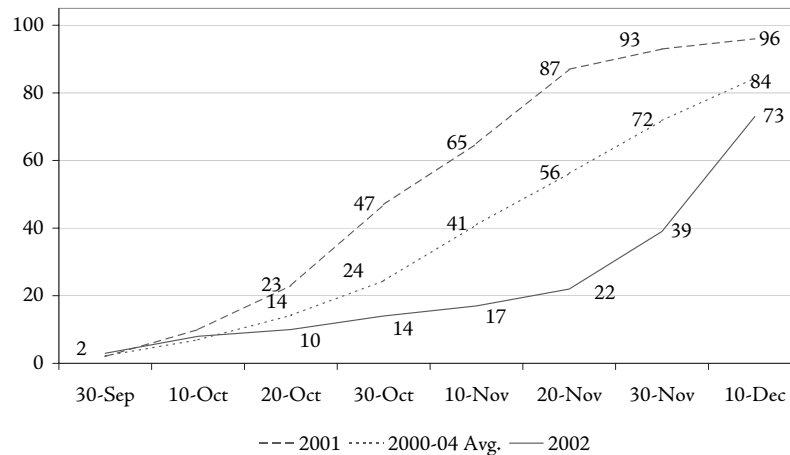
Soybeans: % Planted By Specified Dates



Soybeans: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	September	October			November			December
	30	10	20	30	10	20	30	10
1995	2	6	7	13	16	20	77	84
1996	6	7	8	20	40	56	71	86
1997	4	9	13	16	33	57	65	82
1998	2	5	19	24	45	58	83	92
1999	8	10	15	22	35	52	76	88
2000	4	7	12	29	47	66	76	85
2001	2	10	23	47	65	87	93	96
2002	3	8	10	14	17	22	39	73
2003	2	3	14	17	41	55	80	88
2004	0	7	12	15	35	51	71	80
2000-04 Avg.	2.2	7	14.2	24.4	41	56.2	71.8	84.4

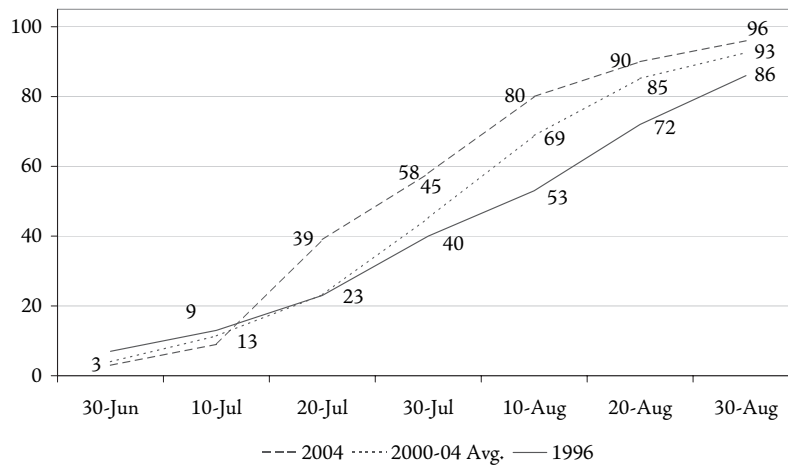
Soybeans: % Harvested By Specified Dates



Soybeans: % Blooming By Specified Dates

Year	June	July			August		
	30	10	20	30	10	20	30
1995	3	11	20	35	60	72	89
1996	7	13	23	40	53	72	86
1997	5	13	20	32	60	76	88
1998	10	15	40	45	70	85	93
1999	8	10	23	35	70	79	94
2000	5	16	27	37	67	80	93
2001	10	18	25	48	65	86	93
2002	2	13	19	44	66	89	90
2003	0	1	6	39	66	81	91
2004	3	9	39	58	80	90	96
2000-04 Avg.	4	11.4	23.2	45.2	68.8	85.2	92.6

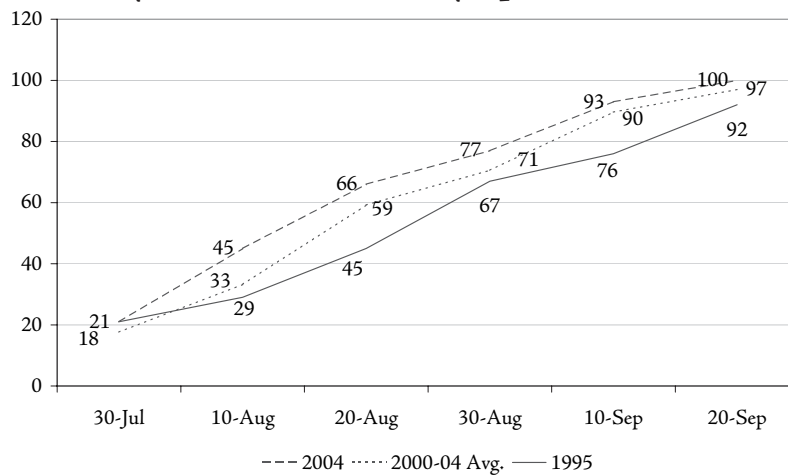
Soybeans: % Blooming By Specified Dates



Soybeans: % Pods Set By Specified Dates

Year	July	August			September	
	30	10	20	30	10	20
1995	21	29	45	67	76	92
1996	30	43	51	67	87	96
1997	15	20	52	76	86	95
1998	25	37	51	73	90	95
1999	15	35	55	65	84	99
2000	14	28	50	60	80	93
2001	22	35	65	77	94	98
2002	24	34	60	71	88	94
2003	7	24	55	68	93	100
2004	21	45	66	77	93	100
2000-04 Avg.	17.6	33.2	59.2	70.6	89.6	97

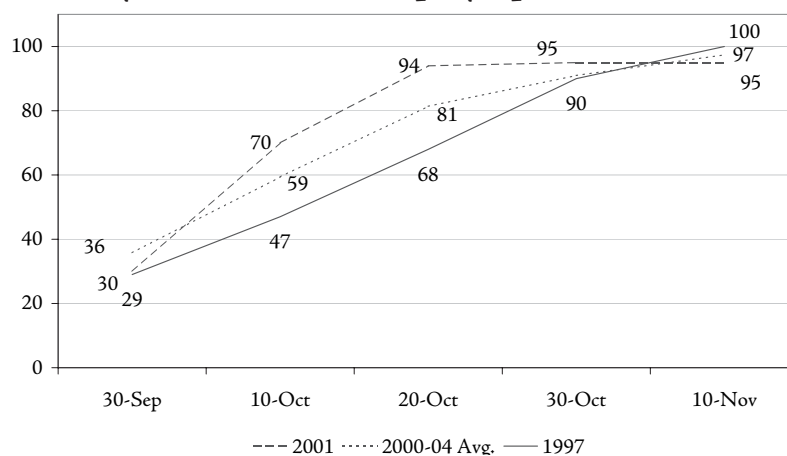
Soybeans: % Pods Set By Specified Dates



Soybeans: % Leaf Drop By Specified Dates

Year	September	October			November
	30	10	20	30	10
1995	28	40	73	94	100
1996	35	45	71	95	100
1997	29	47	68	90	100
1998	35	50	85	93	100
1999	38	48	75	97	100
2000	30	60	80	95	100
2001	30	70	94	95	95
2002	40	58	73	85	92
2003	49	58	84	92	100
2004	30	51	76	88	100
2000-04 Avg.	35.8	59.4	81.4	91	97.4

Soybeans: % Leaf Drop By Specified Dates



PEANUTS

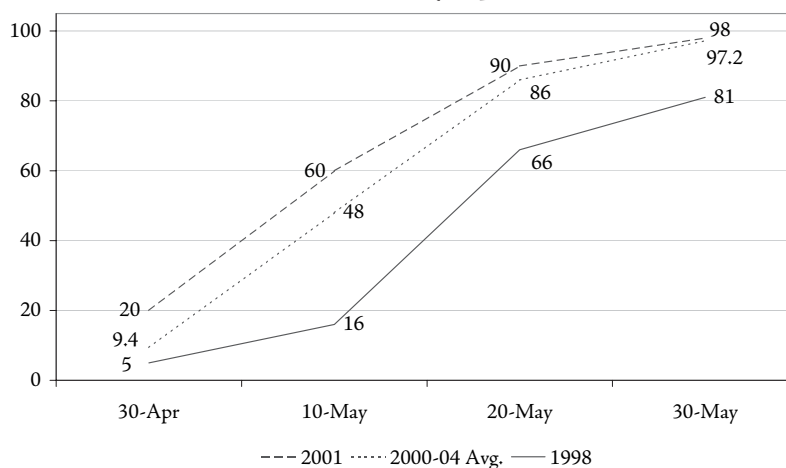
As of 2004, North Carolina was the 5th largest producer of peanuts in the country, contributing about 8.4% of the United States' total crop. Peanut harvested acreage has been on the decline, dipping to a record-low 100,000 acres in 2003. The Northern Coastal Plain region accounted for over 80% of the State's peanut production in 2004.

Peanut planting usually begins around May 1 and continues into June. Digging of the crop usually starts about mid-September and continues through October. Threshing usually begins in late September and continues through early November.

Peanuts: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	April	May		
	30	10	20	30
1995	16	46	80	99
1996	10	30	90	95
1997	8	20	72	90
1998	5	16	66	81
1999	2	45	85	90
2000	1	50	75	99
2001	20	60	90	98
2002	19	40	95	99
2003	5	32	84	92
2004	2	58	86	98
2000-04 Avg.	9.4	48	86	97.2

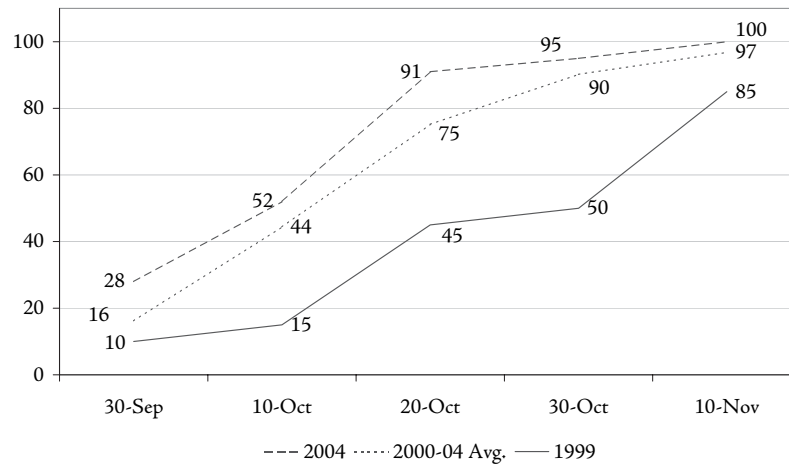
Peanuts: % Planted By Specified Dates



Peanuts: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	September	October			November
	30	10	20	30	10
1995	15	40	60	86	90
1996	20	32	55	89	96
1997	10	21	64	75	93
1998	20	35	65	85	95
1999	10	15	45	50	85
2000	9	45	70	97	99
2001	9	50	75	94	99
2002	25	47	63	77	88
2003	10	28	77	88	98
2004	28	52	91	95	100
2000-04 Avg.	16.2	44.4	75.2	90.2	96.8

Peanuts: % Harvested By Specified Dates



WHEAT

Wheat reached a record yield in 1997 with 51 bushels per acre. Area harvested in 2004 totaled 460,000 acres. Wheat acreage remains steady as a result of double cropping wheat and soybeans.

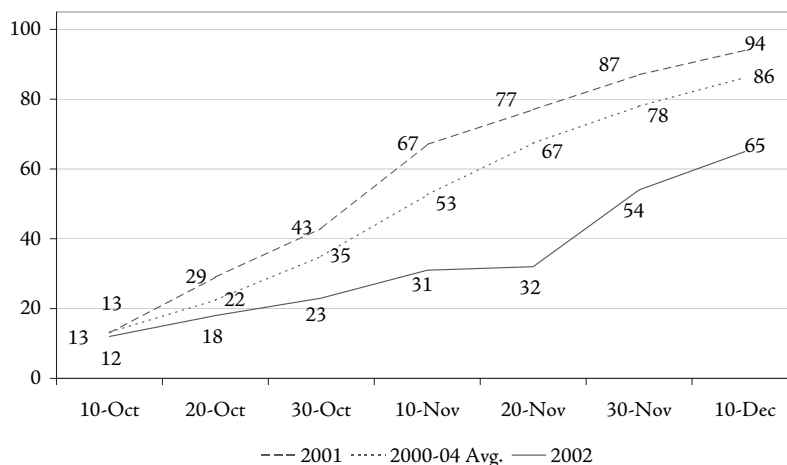
Wheat acreage is sown to soft red winter varieties in North Carolina. Seeding is mostly done between late September and mid-November. North Carolina's relatively mild winters and usually good spring rains combine to provide a good growing season for winter wheat. However, dry fall weather sometimes hampers seed germination. Harvest usually begins in early June and continues through mid-July.

Wheat is grown throughout the State, with the Coastal Plain region accounting for 70% of the State's production. Most of the grain is sold as a cash crop with the remainder used for feed and seed.

Wheat: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	October			November			December
	10	20	30	10	20	30	10
1995	21	27	31	45	54	64	87
1996	16	25	30	62	70	82	91
1997	14	18	34	52	79	87	86
1998	20	25	45	55	75	85	90
1999	14	24	29	41	54	67	90
2000	12	25	34	60	70	80	90
2001	13	29	43	67	77	87	94
2002	12	18	23	31	32	54	65
2003	17	21	38	52	76	83	89
2004	12	19	37	53	82	86	93
2000-04 Avg.	13.2	22.4	35	52.6	67.4	78	86.2

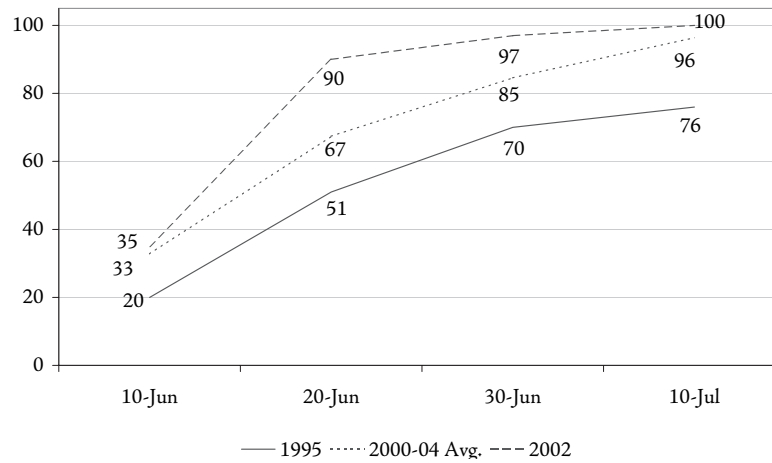
Wheat: % Planted By Specified Dates



Wheat: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	June			July
	10	20	30	10
1995	20	51	70	76
1996	16	48	80	96
1997	25	55	94	100
1998	36	65	96	99
1999	38	69	88	97
2000	28	75	90	98
2001	45	75	80	100
2002	35	90	97	100
2003	25	39	67	87
2004	31	58	89	97
2000-04 Avg.	32.8	67.4	84.6	96.4

Wheat: % Harvested By Specified Dates



COTTON

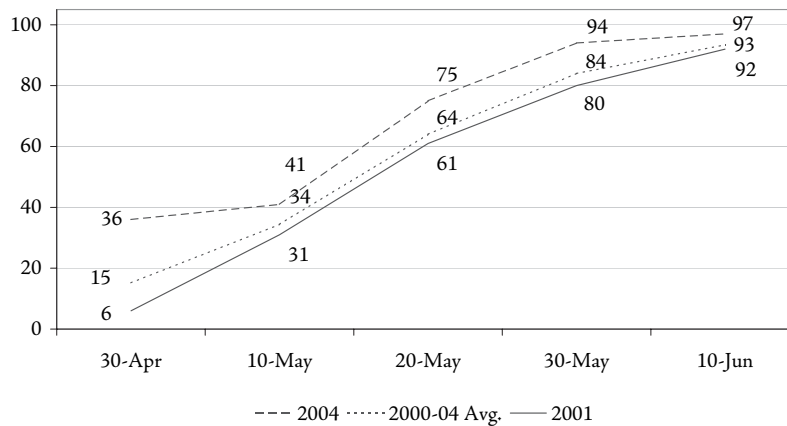
Cotton acres in North Carolina have maintained a strong presence. Between 1995 and 2004, harvested cotton acres averaged 820,000. Harvested cotton acres reached 925,000 in 2001, which is the highest harvested acreage since the 1920's with 2004 seeing a record yield of 900 pounds per acre.

Cotton planting usually begins about April 10 and continues into late May. Cotton squaring begins about mid-June and following closely behind is the blooming stage. Bolls start opening in mid-August and harvest usually begins about mid-September and continues through mid-December.

Cotton % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	April	May			
	25	5	15	25	31
1995	19	38	63	86	96
1996	14	34	60	86	97
1997	10	36	61	80	93
1998	25	41	64	86	97
1999	10	33	61	83	92
2000	7	30	65	85	93
2001	6	31	61	80	92
2002	14	35	60	85	96
2003	13	35	59	76	89
2004	36	41	75	94	97
2000-04 Avg.	15.2	34.4	64	84	93.4

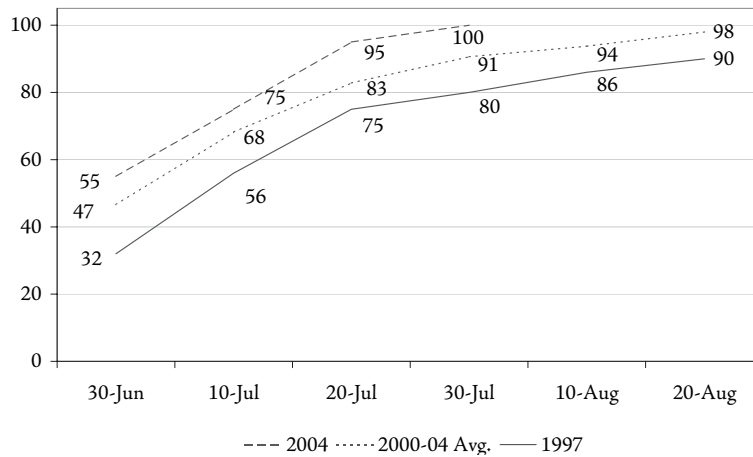
Cotton % Planted By Specified Dates



Cotton % Squared By Specified Dates

Year	June	July			August	
	30	10	20	30	10	20
1995	52	55	65	79	91	94
1996	47	59	71	87	95	98
1997	32	56	75	80	86	90
1998	52	62	72	81	89	100
1999	42	64	68	73	82	100
2000	42	62	76	87	94	98
2001	40	65	77	85	90	95
2002	50	75	86	94	96	99
2003	46	64	80	87	95	100
2004	55	75	95	100		
2000-04 Avg.	46.6	68.2	82.8	90.6	93.75	98

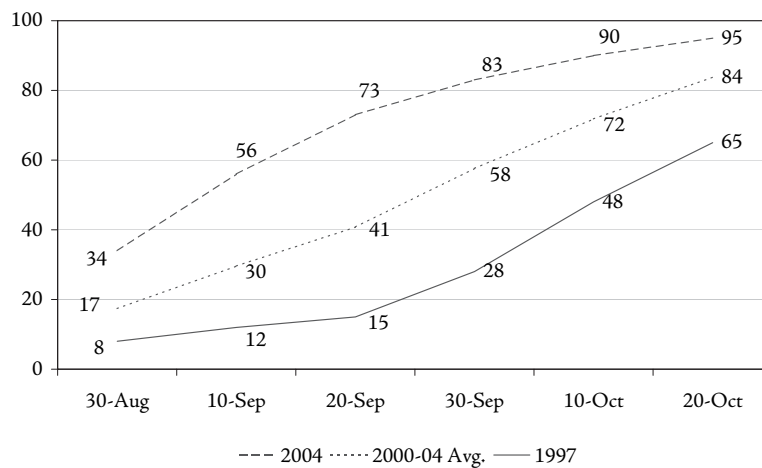
Cotton % Squared By Specified Dates



Cotton % Open Bolls By Specified Dates

Year	August	September			October	
	30	10	20	30	10	20
1995	14	21	44	65	83	92
1996	13	20	43	63	80	89
1997	8	12	15	28	48	65
1998	13	25	50	70	85	90
1999	24	29	34	53	60	83
2000	10	18	30	50	63	75
2001	14	20	25	45	65	80
2002	25	40	52	65	80	92
2003	4	14	24	45	61	77
2004	34	56	73	83	90	95
2000-04 Avg.	14.4	21.4	37.2	55.8	71.2	83.8

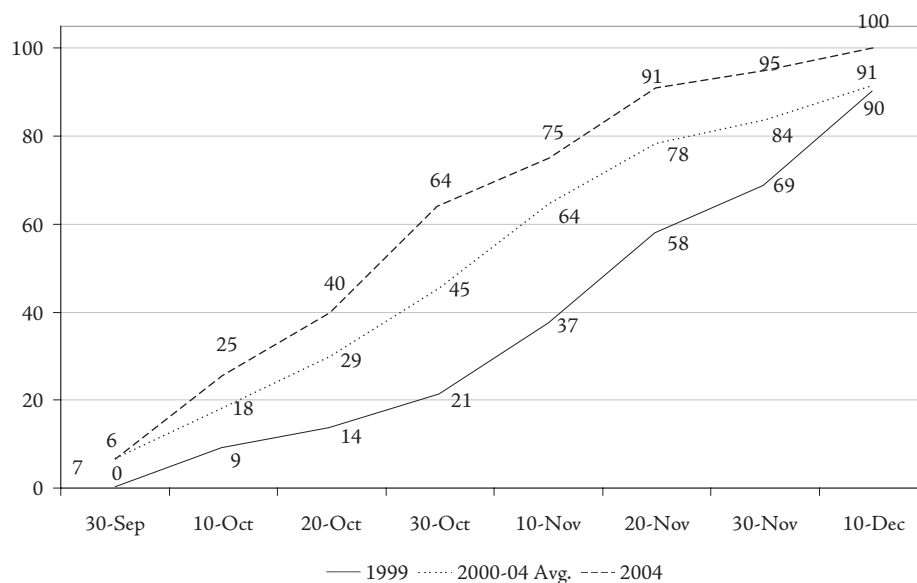
Cotton % Open Bolls By Specified Dates



Cotton: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	September	October				November			December
	30	10	20	30	10	20	30	10	
1995	7	16	32	46	63	75	81		86
1996	8	16	35	50	65	72	78		84
1997	7	17	27	34	48	61	76		80
1998	25	30	55	70	75	85	90		95
1999	0	9	14	21	37	58	69		90
2000	5	17	27	43	70	85	88		94
2001	5	18	32	43	75	85	91		99
2002	16	25	36	43	55	57	65		81
2003	0	6	11	34	43	72	80		82
2004	6	25	40	64	75	91	95		100
2000-04 Avg.	6.75	18.2	29.2	45.4	63.6	78	83.8		89

Cotton: % Harvested By Specified Dates



🍏 APPLES 🍏

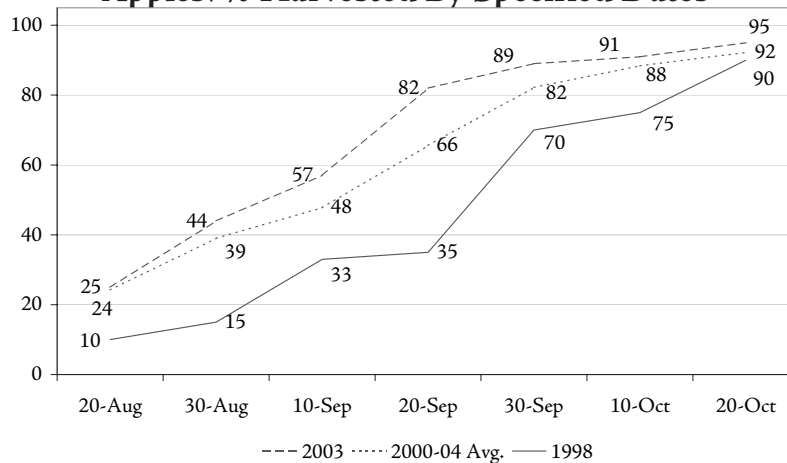
North Carolina apple production is concentrated in the Mountain and Western Piedmont regions. While apples remain the top fruit produced in North Carolina, market, financial and environmental conditions have negatively impacted the State's production, driving many farmers out of the business. The result was an overall 34% decrease in acreage, a 23% decrease in both the number of trees and apple orchards in the state since 1996. Although this industry has declined over the last few years, North Carolina remains 8th largest apple producing state and the industry is undoubtedly important to the economy of Western North Carolina.

Apple harvest usually begins in early August and continues through early November.

Apples: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	August		September			October	
	20	30	10	20	30	10	20
1995	8	20	35	45	68	85	94
1996	7	12	33	48	69	81	96
1997	14	20	42	46	74	84	97
1998	10	15	33	35	70	75	90
1999	10	20	30	49	64	91	96
2000	15	25	30	60	80	90	92
2001	24	29	39	49	77	89	93
2002	20	45	55	75	85	87	89
2003	25	44	57	82	89	91	95
2004	37	52	58	62	80	85	92
2000-04 Avg.	24.2	39	47.8	65.6	82.2	88.4	92.2

Apples: % Harvested By Specified Dates



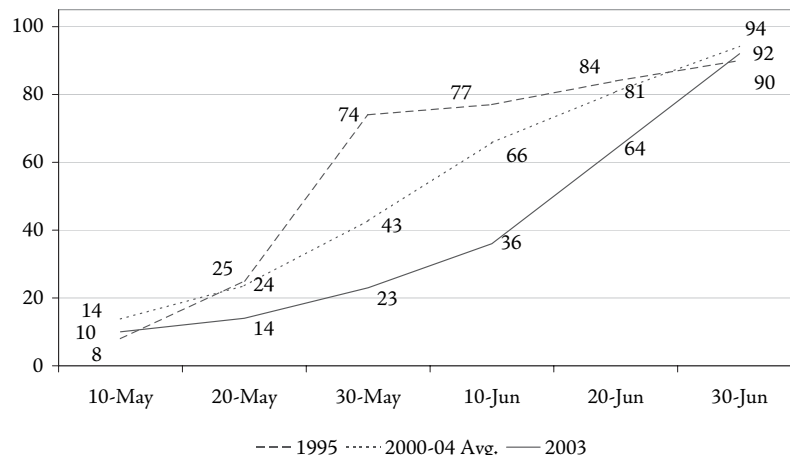
☞ SWEETPOTATOES ☞

Ranking first in the nation in the production of sweetpotatoes, North Carolina recorded 43,000 acres in 2004. Sweetpotatoes are primarily found throughout the coastal region due to its sandy soil and temperate climate, with Johnston, Sampson and Nash counties leading production. Sweetpotatoes are planted usually in early-to-mid May and harvested between late August and early October.

Sweetpotatoes: % Planted By Specified Dates

Year	May			June		
	10	20	30	10	20	30
1995	8	25	74	77	84	90
1996	16	28	43	75	89	99
1997	12	23	39	58	75	91
1998	12	20	52	59	80	87
1999	9	14	44	61	82	90
2000	14	30	58	71	87	94
2001	5	12	39	69	80	91
2002	20	30	48	80	90	95
2003	10	14	23	36	64	92
2004	20	32	46	73	83	99
2000-04 Avg.	13.8	23.6	42.8	65.8	80.8	94.2

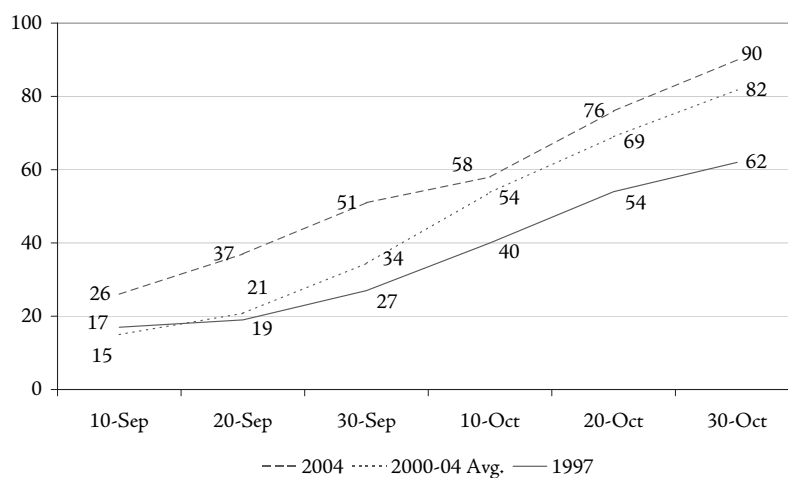
Sweetpotatoes: % Planted By Specified Dates



Sweetpotatoes: % Harvested By Specified Dates

Year	September			October		
	10	20	30	10	20	30
1995	13	23	34	45	57	82
1996	10	15	31	35	66	82
1997	17	19	27	40	54	62
1998	14	29	43	49	77	84
1999	13	22	25	35	55	70
2000	19	28	38	64	74	91
2001	10	16	25	48	65	86
2002	5	10	21	34	60	63
2003	5	13	37	65	70	79
2004	26	37	51	58	76	90
2000-04 Avg.	15	20.8	34.4	53.8	69	81.8

Sweetpotatoes: % Harvested By Specified Dates



Special Thanks To:

NC Climate Center
Ryan Bowles, State Climatologist
www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu

NRCS Weather and Climate Center
Prism Group
Jan Curtis, Prism Project Manager
www.prismclimate.org

National Weather Service
www.nws.noaa.gov

National Climatic Data Center
www.ncdc.noaa.gov

Southeast Regional Climate Center
www.sercc.com

